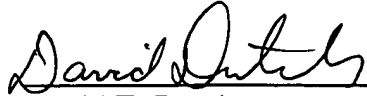


**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be expediently handled by telephone, he or she is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (206) 359-6465.

Respectfully submitted,  
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: March 22, 2004

  
David T. Dutcher  
Registration No. 51,638

**Correspondence Address:**

Customer No. 25096  
Perkins Coie LLP  
P.O. Box 1247  
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247  
(206) 359-8000